

Please add new Claims 9-30 as follows:

AI 9. (new) A three-dimensional composite textile material for protecting a body against heat comprising:

a layer of hydrophobic woven material;

a layer of hydrophilic woven material separated from said layer of hydrophobic woven material; and

link threads interconnecting said layers of hydrophobic and hydrophilic woven materials, and extending generally cross-wise to said layers of hydrophobic and hydrophilic woven materials.

10. (new) The three-dimensional composite textile material of claim 9, further comprising a coating layer on said layer of hydrophobic woven material making said layer of hydrophobic woven material leakproof.

11. (new) The three-dimensional textile composite material of claim 9, further comprising a second layer of hydrophobic woven material contiguous to the first layer of hydrophobic woven material and a coating layer contiguous to said second layer of hydrophobic woven material making said second layer of hydrophobic woven material leakproof.

12. (new) A three-dimensional composite textile material for protecting a body against heat comprising:

a layer of hydrophobic woven material;

a first layer of hydrophilic woven material separated from said layer of hydrophobic woven material;

a second layer of hydrophilic woven material spaced from said layer of hydrophobic woven material and said first layer of hydrophilic woven material and located intermediate said layer of hydrophobic woven material and said first layer of

hydrophilic woven material; and

link threads interconnecting said layer of hydrophobic woven material and said second layer of hydrophilic woven material, and extending generally cross-wise to said layer of hydrophobic woven material and said second layer of hydrophilic woven material, and supporting said second layer of hydrophilic woven material in a position intermediate said layer of hydrophobic woven material and said first layer of hydrophilic woven material.

13. (new) The three-dimensional composite textile material of claim 12, further comprising a coating layer on said layer of hydrophobic woven material making said layer of hydrophobic woven material leakproof.

14. (new) The three-dimensional textile composite material of claim 12, further comprising a second layer of hydrophobic woven material contiguous to the first layer of hydrophobic woven material and a coating layer contiguous to said second layer of hydrophobic woven material making said second layer of hydrophobic woven material leakproof.

15. (new) The three-dimensional composite textile material of claim 12, wherein said second layer of hydrophilic woven material is not continuous.

16. (new) The three-dimensional composite textile material of claim 15, further comprising a coating layer on said layer of hydrophobic woven material making said layer of hydrophobic woven material leakproof.

17. (new) The three-dimensional textile composite material of claim 15, further comprising a second layer of hydrophobic woven material contiguous to the first layer of hydrophobic woven material and a coating layer contiguous to said second layer

of hydrophobic woven material making said second layer of hydrophobic woven material leakproof.

18. (new) A system for protecting a body from adverse environmental conditions comprising:

a layer of hydrophobic woven material;

a layer of hydrophilic woven material separated from said layer of hydrophobic woven material;

link threads interconnecting said layers of hydrophobic and hydrophilic woven materials, and extending generally cross-wise to said layers of hydrophobic and hydrophilic woven materials; and

means for circulating air through said materials.

19. (new) The system of claim 18, wherein the system is selected from the group consisting of a garment, a seat covering, a bed covering, and a sleeping bag.

20. (new) The system of claim 18, wherein the circulating means includes an entrance coupling for receiving air to be circulated through the system and an exit coupling to permit air to be expelled from the system.

21. (new) The system of claim 20, further comprising a diffusion zone located intermediate said entrance coupling and said exit coupling for distributing the flow of air to be circulated through the system.

22. (new) The system of claim 21, wherein said diffusion zone has discontinuous stitching enabling air to diffuse throughout the entire system.

23. (new) The system of claim 20, further comprising a collector zone located intermediate said entrance coupling and said exit coupling for collecting the flow of air circulated through the system.

24. (new) A system for protecting a body from adverse environmental conditions comprising:

a layer of hydrophobic woven material;

a first layer of hydrophilic woven material separated from said layer of hydrophobic woven material;

a second layer of hydrophilic woven material spaced from said layer of hydrophobic woven material and said first layer of hydrophilic woven material and located intermediate said layer of hydrophobic woven material and said first layer of hydrophilic woven material;

link threads interconnecting said layer of hydrophobic woven material and said second layer of hydrophilic woven material, and extending generally cross-wise to said layer of hydrophobic woven material and said second layer of hydrophilic woven material, and supporting said second layer of hydrophilic woven material in a position intermediate said layer of hydrophobic woven material and said first layer of hydrophilic woven material; and

means for circulating air through said materials.

25. (new) The system of claim 24, wherein said second layer of hydrophilic woven material is not continuous.

26. (new) The system of claim 25, wherein the system is selected from the group consisting of a garment, a seat covering, a bed covering, and a sleeping bag.

27. (new) The system of claim 25, wherein the circulating means includes an entrance coupling for receiving air to be circulated through the system and

an exit coupling to permit air to be expelled from the system.

28. (new) The system of claim 27, further comprising a diffusion zone located intermediate said entrance coupling and said exit coupling for distributing the flow of air to be circulated through the system.

29. (new) The system of claim 28, wherein said diffusion zone has discontinuous stitching enabling air to diffuse throughout the entire system.

30. (new) The system of claim 27, further comprising a collector zone located intermediate said entrance coupling and said exit coupling for collecting the flow of air circulated through the system.

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 were pending in the above-identified application. By this amendment, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-8 without prejudice, and has added new Claims 9-30, which now clearly define the present invention. New Claims 9-30, corresponding substantially to original Claims 1-8 of the above identified application, are fully supported by the specification as originally filed and do not introduce new matter. Accordingly, the entry of Claims 9-30 is respectfully requested.

In view of the preceding amendments and the remarks which follow, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections set forth in the July 5, 2001 Office Action, and allow new Claims 9-30.

35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph Rejection

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. New Claims 9-30 correspond substantially to original Claims 1-8, however, the new claims have been drafted to exclude the language that the Examiner deemed to be objectionable, thereby mooting the § 112 rejection. The Applicant